

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The headquarters of an Auxiliary Technical Battalion (PTB) are at Hvezdov, near Mimon (O 51/F 95). Captain of Infantry Jan TUREK was the commanding officer of the battalion; his chief of staff was Lieutenant of Infantry Vladimir SVAJNER; and the political officer was Lieutenant of Paratroops CORNA (fnu).
2. The personnel of the battalion was composed mostly of students dismissed from educational institutions and of the so-called village rich. When the soldiers first came to the battalion they were told that they would be released after three months if they worked well and behaved properly, but they actually never knew how long they would have to serve.
3. The battalion had four companies, two stationed at Strasice (N 50/I 34), one at Varnsdorf (O 51/F 87) and one working on the Pilsen airfield. The commanding officer of the company at Pilsen was Lieutenant BAUER (fnu).
4. The companies at Strasice had 200 men each. The 1st Company was commanded by 1st Lieutenant BITNER; the 2nd Company was commanded by Lieutenant ZEMAN (fnu). The 1st Company worked on the construction of a concrete road to the tank camp (sic) at Strasice.
5. The company at Varnsdorf had 80 men, who worked on the adaptation of the former Severka textile factory into barracks for the Border Guard (PS).
6. The largest group of tanks observed leaving the Strasice tank camp at one time was 10 tanks, mostly old German tanks and T-34's, with distinctive traces of wear and tear. The camp also had artillery; the largest group observed leaving the camp was composed of about 10 pieces. These were howitzers with barrels about three meters long and were of caliber 150 mm. Artillery men were billeted in houses built after the war, and the tank men were living in old wooden huts.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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